

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A drill press assembly comprising:

a drill chuck having an opening to receive a drill bit and a bottom spaced from said opening for supporting said drill bit, said opening elevated above said bottom;

an extendable stand for elevating said drill chuck, said stand extendable between a first height and a second height higher than said first height relative to ground; and

an actuator for creating an upward force to said drill chuck.
2. The drill press assembly of Claim 1 wherein said actuator comprises a lever.
3. The drill press assembly of Claim 1 wherein said actuator comprises a rack and a pinion.
4. The drill press assembly of Claim 1 wherein said stand comprises a first member and a second member, said first member extendable relative to said second member.
5. The drill press assembly of Claim 4 wherein said first member is received in said second member.

6. The drill press assembly of Claim 1 wherein said stand has a foot pivotable relative to said stand.
7. The drill press assembly of Claim 1 including a drill drive mechanism for rotating said drill chuck.
8. The drill press assembly of Claim 1 wherein said drill drive mechanism comprises a pneumatic drill.
9. The drill press assembly of Claim 1 including a drill bit received in said drill chuck.

10. A drill press assembly comprising:
a drill chuck;
a brace for supporting said drill chuck, said brace having a retracted length and an extended length greater than said retracted length; and
an actuator for applying an upward force relative to the ground to said drill chuck.
11. The drill press assembly of Claim 10 wherein said retracted length has a lower elevation than said extended length.
12. The drill press assembly of Claim 10 wherein said actuator comprises a lever.
13. The drill press assembly of Claim 12 wherein said lever comprises a rack and pinion.
14. The drill press assembly of Claim 10 wherein said brace comprises a first member and a second member, said first member receivable in said second member.
15. The drill press assembly of Claim 10 wherein said brace has a foot pivotable relative to said brace.
16. The drill press assembly of Claim 10 including a drill drive mechanism for rotating said drill chuck.

17. The drill press assembly of Claim 16 wherein said drill drive mechanism comprises a pneumatic drive.

18. The drill press assembly of Claim 10 wherein said drill chuck has an opening to receive a drill bit and a bottom spaced from said opening for supporting said drill bit, said opening at a higher elevation than said bottom.

19. A method of drilling comprising the steps of: ³
supporting a drill bit from a mechanical ground support;
orienting a drill bit to drill in an upward direction from ground along
an axis;
elevating the drill bit through the mechanical ground support along the
axis from a lower elevation to a higher elevation relative to ground; and
rotating the drill bit about the axis.
20. The method of drilling of Claim 19 wherein elevating comprises
extending the mechanical ground support from a first height to a second height
higher than the first height relative to ground.